

4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2-1 wherein the network representation is generated at startup.

5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2-1 wherein the network representation is generated at reconfiguration.

6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2-1 wherein the network event comprises at least one of provisioning, circuit provisioning, service provisioning, switch provisioning, rollback, and delete.

23. (Currently amended) A computer program product for modelling a communications network, the computer program product including a computer usable storage medium having computer readable code embodied in the computer usable storage medium, the computer readable code including instructions to:

generate a network representation, the network representation representing structured information;

parse the network representation; and

generate a network model using the parsed network representation, the network model including a plurality of network objects and relationships between the plurality of network objects; and

process a network event using the network model, wherein processing the network event includes ~~identifying~~ identifying one or more network objects of the plurality of network objects, and further includes determining an order of operation on the one or more of the plurality of network objects.

27. (Currently amended) An apparatus for modelling a communications network using a computer system; the apparatus including:

means for representing a plurality of network objects and relationships between the plurality of network objects on the communications network;

means for generating a network model using the representing means, the network model including the plurality of network objects and relationships between the plurality of network objects on the communications network;

means for storing the network model; and

means for processing a network event using the network model, wherein processing the network event includes identifying one or more network objects of the plurality of network objects, and further includes determining an order of operation on the one or more of the plurality of network objects.